

Jawaharlal Nehru University
School of Social Sciences
Centre for the Study of Social Systems

Course No: SS601N

Theoretical Orientations in Sociological Analysis

PhD Monsoon Semester 2023(Compulsory Course)

Course Teacher: Prof. V. Sujatha

Credits: 4

Course Description

This course provides the prospective researcher with a set of theoretical frames and heuristic tools for research. It starts with the second and third generation sociological theory. The classical and early theories will be covered through the feminist lens and through class discussion. This the course has three key features: First, it will be multicentric in its orientation, including perspectives from different parts of the world. Second, the course presents the approaches as they are in dialogue or debate with others, answering certain common questions which constitute the core of sociological theorizing. Third, this course will also focus on a relevant set of concepts that could be the organizing principle for research. The methods of teaching will be composite consisting of lectures, guest lectures, class presentations by students followed by discussion. Students will be encouraged to seek clarifications and share their thoughts.

Course Assessment:

1 Credit: Text based presentation, defense and submission of a write-up of 2000 words (Mid- Sem) and participation in class presentations and discussion

1 Credit: Class presentations and short assignments of about 1000 words during the entire session.

2 Credits: Semester long research paper (of not more than 5000 words) on a chosen theme connecting theories/concepts with observation or field study and viva defense (End semester)

Course Themes & Core Readings

Introduction

1. Raghuramaraju,A. (2011). *Modernity in Indian social theory*. Oxford University Press
2. KrishnaDaya. (2012). *Civilizations: nostalgia and utopia*. India: SAGE Publications.
3. Bauman, Z., & May, T. (2019). *Thinking sociologically*. John Wiley & Sons.
4. Layder, D. (1993). *New strategies in social research: An introduction and guide*. Polity Press.

Ecology and society

5. Marx, Karl. Premises of the materialist conception of history from the German ideology
6. Mukherjee, Radhakamal. (2014). *Social Ecology*. India: D.K.Printworld.

7. Guha, Ramachandra. (2014). *Savaging the Civilised: Verrier Elwin, His Tribals and India*. Penguin Books.

Structural Functionalism

8. Merton, Robert. K. (1968). *Social Theory and Social Structure Enlarged to Include Two New Essays on Theoretical Sociology*. New York: The Free Press.

The Social and the Public: Social History and Social Theory

9. Habermas, Jürgen. (1989). *The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere: An Enquiry into a Category of Bourgeois Society* (Thomas Berger, Trans.). UK: Polity Press.

10. Uberoi, J. S. (2019). 'On civil society' and 'Religion, civil society and the state in India,' in *Mind and society: From Indian studies to general sociology*. Oxford University Press.

11. Rudolph, S. H., & Rudolph, L. I. (2003). The coffee house and the ashram: Gandhi, civil society and public spheres. *Heidelberg Papers in South Asian and Comparative Politics*, (15). <https://doi.org/10.11588/hpsap.2003.15.2183>

12. Veeravalli, Anuradha. (2011). Swaraj and Sovereignty. *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 46, Issue No. 05, 29 Jan, 2011. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/27918091>

Everyday life

13. Schutz, A., & Luckmann, T. (1973). *The structures of the life-world (Vol. 1)*. Evanston: Northwestern University Press.

14. Garfinkel, Harold. (1967). *Studies in Ethnomethodology*. Prentice Hall.

15. Garfinkel, Harold (Ed.). (2017). *Routledge revivals: Ethnomethodological studies of work* (1986). Routledge.

Dependency Theory/NeoMarxism

16. Escobar, A. (2011). *Encountering development: The making and unmaking of the Third World (Vol. 1)*. Princeton University Press.

17. Quijano, A. (2000). Coloniality of power, knowledge, and Latin America. *Nepantla: Views from South*, 1(3).

18. Svampa, Maristella. (2019). *Neo-Extractivism in Latin America*. London: Cambridge University Press.

Development and Resistance

19. Ake, Claude. (1981). *A political economy of Africa*. Africa: Longman.

Feminist Theories

20. Mahmood, Saba. (2011). *Politics of Piety: The Islamic Revival and the Feminist Subject*. Princeton University Press.

21. Walby, Sylvia. (1990). *Theorizing patriarchy*. US: Blackwell.

Critical Theory

22. Marcuse, H. (2013). *One-dimensional man: Studies in the ideology of advanced industrial society*. Routledge.

Culture, knowledge and society: Civilizational perspectives

23. Shiva, Vandana. (1988). "Reductionist science as epistemological violence". In Ashish Nandy (Ed.) *Science, hegemony, and violence*. Pp. 232-256. Oxford University Press.

24. Mayaram, S. (Ed.). (2009). *The other global city*. Routledge.

25. Kanjirakat, Jobin M., Gordon McOuat, and Sundar Sarrukai (Eds.). (2015). *Science and Narratives of Nature: East and West*. Routledge.

Post Structuralism and Postmodernism

26. Foucault, Michel. (1975). *Discipline and punish: The birth of the prison* (Alan Sheridan, Trans.). New York: Vintage Books.

27. Haraway, D. (2013). *Simians, cyborgs, and women: The reinvention of nature*. Routledge.

Body and Society

28. Turner, Bryan S. (2008). *The Body & Society: Explorations in Social Theory*. LA: Sage Publications.

29. Bourdieu, Pierre. (2001). *Masculine domination*. Stanford University Press.

Network and Assemblage

30. Castells, Manuel. (2000). *The Rise of The Network Society*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers.

31. Beck, Ulrich. (1992). *Risk Society: Towards a new modernity* (Mark Ritter, Trans.). Sage Publications.

32. Latour, B. (2007). *Reassembling the social: An introduction to actor-network-theory*. Oxford: OUP.

Contemporary Marxism

33. Lefebvre, Henri. (1991). *The production of space* (Donald Nicholson-Smith Trans.). Blackwell. (Original work published 1974)

34. Harvey, D. (2017). *Marx, capital, and the madness of economic reason*. Oxford University Press.

Supplementary Readings For Discussion:

1. Turner, B. S. (Ed.). (2016). *The new Blackwell companion to social theory*. John Wiley & Sons.
2. Singh, Yogendra. (2004). "Image of man". In *Ideology and Theory in Indian Sociology*. Jaipur: Rawat Publications.
3. Engels, F. (2021). *The origin of the family, private property and the state*. Verso Books.
4. Benton, T. (1991). Biology and social science: why the return of the repressed should be given a (cautious) welcome. *Sociology*, 25(1), 1-29.
5. Bhaskar, Roy. (2013). *A realist theory of science*. Routledge.

6. Cahoon, Lawrence (Ed.). (2003). *From Modernism to Postmodernism An Anthology*. Massachusetts: Blackwell
7. Lengermann, Patricia Madoo and Gillian Neibrugge. (1998). *The Women Founders: Sociology and Social Theory 1830-1930: a Text/Reader*. Illinois: Wave Land Press.
8. Jackson, Stevi and Sue Scott. (2021). *Gender: A Sociological Reader*. London: Routledge.
9. Marcuse, H. (2004). *Technology, War and Fascism: Collected Papers of Herbert Marcuse, Volume 1* (Vol. 1). Routledge.
10. Adam, Barbara, Ulrich Beck, Joost Van Loon (Eds.). (2000). *The Risk Society and Beyond: Critical Issues for Social Theory*. London: Sage Publications
11. Issakson, Anna. (2020). Classical Sociology Through the Lens of Gendered Experiences. *Frontiers in Sociology*, Vol.5, No. 532792, 19 October.
12. Beteille, Andre. (1983). *The Idea of Natural Inequality and Other Essays*. Delhi: Oxford University Press
13. Guru, Gopal. (2012). *The Cracked Mirror: an Indian Debate on Experience and Theory*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
14. Sarukkai, S. (2002). Inside/Outside: Merleau-Ponty/Yoga. *Philosophy East and West*, 459-478.
15. Cohen, E. B. O. (2006). Kime and the moving body: Somatic codes in Japanese martial arts. *Body & Society*, 12(4), 73-93.
16. Nigam, Aditya. (2020). *Decolonising theory. Thinking across traditions*. India: Bloomsbury.
17. Pollock, Sheldon. (2006). "The Vernacular Millennium". In *The language of the gods in the world of men: Sanskrit, culture, and power in premodern India*. Univ of California Press.
18. Ghosh, Anjan. (2011) "Contested spaces: Puja and its Publics in Calcutta". In A. Ghosh, T. Guha-Thakurta, & J. Nair (Eds.) *Theorizing The Present: Essays for Partha Chatterjee*. Oxford University Press.
19. Hall, Stuart. (1981). Notes on Deconstructing "the Popular". In David Morely (Ed.), *Essential Essays, Volume 1. Foundations of Cultural Studies*. USA: Duke University Press.